

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 124703

12

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 /087 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:RBHOUSTON/EHURWITZ:FEW

APPROVED BY EUR/EE - MR. HOUSTON

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R 122010Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124703

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PINS, BU

SUBJECT: BULGARIAN ESPIONAGE CASE

1. AT BULGARIAN RECEPTION JUNE 11 ACTING DIRECTOR OF EUR/EE HOUSTON RAISED SHPETER CASE BRIEFLY WITH BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR POPOV. HOUSTON SAID HE FELT THAT AMBASSADOR SHOULD KNOW THAT DEPARTMENT HAD RECEIVED EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN FOR SHPETER FROM VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS INCLUDING SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. AS A RESULT OF THIS PUBLIC INTEREST, WE HAD ASKED OUR EMBASSY IN SOFIA TO KEEP DEPARTMENT INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS, ESPECIALLY CONCERNING THE APPEAL OF SENTENCE WHICH WE UNDERSTOOD HAD BEEN FILED.

2. POPOV SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON CASE OTHER THAN THAT WHICH APPEARED IN PRESS. HE SAID THAT HIS EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED SOME PROTESTS AND APPEALS FOR CLEMENCY, BUT HE FELT THESE HAD BEEN STIRRED UP BY A FEW JEWISH FRIENDS OF SHPETER IN NEW YORK AREA.

3. WE HAVE HAD NO INDICATION THAT SHPETER HAS BROTHER IN NEW YORK (REFTEL), BUT WILL ENDEAVOR TO FIND OUT IF THIS IS CASE.

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4. NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, AND NY TIMES JUNE 7 ADVERTISEMENT

IN NAME OF JOHN K. GALBRAITH, WALTER HELLER, PAUL SAMUELSON

AND OTHERS, HAVE BEEN POUCHED. WE HAVE SEEN NO PRESS
COVERAGE OF CASE SINCE JUNE 8.

SISCO

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Message Attributes

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